

Rewrite Claim 19 as follows:

19.17 In a tire inflation system for a vehicle having at least one axle with at least one pneumatic tire mounted on the end of the axle for rotation about the axle end and a source of pressurized air carried by the vehicle for supplying air to the interior of the axle and then to a hub cap to inflate the tire, the improvement comprising:

a first rotary union member mounted on the end of the axle and having a first elongate opening therethrough and with a first seal ring carried thereabout;

a second rotary union member mounted on the hub cap and having a second elongate opening therethrough in general alignment with the first opening and with a second seal ring carried thereabout, and

a tube having a first end extending into and sealably [engaging] through said first seal ring and a second end and extending into and sealably [engaging] through said second seal ring,

at least a portion of the tube intermediate the inner ends of the openings being flexible, whereby said tube may flex at each end adjacent said first and second openings; and

at least one of the seal rings serves as a dynamic seal during rotation of said hub cap in relation to said axle, and

the opening adjacent to the one dynamic seal ring closely receives a sufficient length of said one end of the tube so that misalignment between said first and second members ^{to accomodate} during rotation is compensated for by flexure in said flexible tube to minimize distortion of said dynamic seal.